

# WHAT'S *New*



in the Metropolitan Police Department

*A weekly update for residents, visitors, and  
workers in the District of Columbia*

*Friday, November 10, 2006*

## CHIEF OFFICIALLY ENDS CRIME EMERGENCY; INITIATIVE PRODUCED 19 PERCENT DROP IN VIOLENT CRIME

In response to an early summer spike in violent crime, Chief Ramsey on July 11 declared a Crime Emergency, allowing the Chief to suspend certain scheduling provisions of the MPDC's contracts with both police and civilian unions. Schedules were immediately adjusted, including assigning all sworn members to six-day work weeks during the rest of the summer. Late last week, Chief Ramsey officially ended the Crime Emergency and reinstated the specific articles of the labor agreements that had been suspended. A review of crime and police activity data for the 16 weeks the Crime Emergency was in effect reveals that the initiative produced significant results. Violent crime declined by more than 19 percent, when compared with the same time period of 2005, and overall crime was down more than 14 percent citywide. Spikes in both homicides and robberies have been reversed; both crimes are now down for the year — robberies by 4 percent, murders by more than 11 percent. A major factor in the crime decrease was a substantial rise in enforcement activity during the Crime Emergency. Arrests of adults rose more than 5 percent, juvenile arrests were up 14 percent, and firearm recoveries jumped 7.5 percent. The MPDC Crime Emergency was supported by actions from Mayor Williams and the DC Council, including a temporary adjustment to the city's curfew hours. During the Crime Emergency, curfew citations rose 183 percent, and juvenile involvement in crime — as both victims and offenders — declined. Chief Ramsey thanked all members of the MPDC for their hard work and sacrifice during the Crime Emergency.

- ① Read the latest results at  
<http://newsroom.dc.gov/show.aspx/agency/mpdc/section/2/release/10166>
- ① More detailed Crime Emergency statistics can be found at:  
[http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/frames.asp?doc=/mpdc/lib/mpdc/about/units/rdd/crime\\_emergency/crimeemergency\\_summary.pdf](http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/frames.asp?doc=/mpdc/lib/mpdc/about/units/rdd/crime_emergency/crimeemergency_summary.pdf)
- ① While the summer Crime Emergency has ended, the Chief announced the beginning of the Winter Crime initiative. Members on redeployment will continue to work a sixth day for monetary compensation, and there are additional slots for the MPDC's Mobile Force program.

## NEW MPDC REPORT ANALYZES RECENT HOMICIDE TRENDS

In 2005, the District of Columbia recorded 196 homicides, the lowest annual total since 1986 and the first time in two decades that the city has had fewer than 200 murders in consecutive years (there were 198 murders in 2004). Homicides in DC have declined steadily in recent years, from 248 in 2003, and 262 in 2002. A new report from the MPDC summarizes trends and issues in DC homicides committed between 2001 and 2005. The report, developed by the MPDC's Office of Organizational Development, describes demographic factors of homicide victims and offenders, as well as where homicides took place, primary methods by which people were killed and the motivations behind those killings. Major findings of the new report include the following. In 2005, 165 men, 19 women, 10 boys and 2 girls were murdered. As a group, young Black males, ages 18 to 24, are disproportionately represented among both homicide victims and offenders in DC. Shootings remain the most common method of homicide, accounting for about 80 percent of all murders in DC. These were followed blunt force trauma (9%) and stabbings (7%). While the vast majority of homicide victims in DC are men, females are more likely to become victims of homicide involving child abuse and domestic violence. Males are much more likely to become victims in cases involving retaliation or robbery. Illicit drug activity and arguments are the largest categories of homicide motive, regardless of the victim's or offender's race, gender or age.

- ① View the entire report at:  
[http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/frames.asp?doc=/mpdc/lib/mpdc/publications/researchreports/homicide\\_2001\\_2005.pdf](http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/frames.asp?doc=/mpdc/lib/mpdc/publications/researchreports/homicide_2001_2005.pdf)
- ① To help police solve more homicides, the MPDC offers rewards of up to \$25,000 for information leading to an arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for any homicide committed in DC. Details on these and other rewards are at:  
[http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1243,q,560024,mpdcNav\\_GID,1533.asp](http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1243,q,560024,mpdcNav_GID,1533.asp)

## 3D OFFICERS WHO DETECTED STOLEN AUTO, RECOVERED UZI ARE AMONG NOVEMBER "OFFICERS OF THE MONTH"

This spring, PSA 301 Officers James Antonio and Jose Morales were on directed patrol in the 1400 block of Park Road, NW, when they noticed a Toyota Camry with front-end damage. A computer check revealed that the vehicle had been stolen from Montgomery County. The officers followed the vehicle into the 3200 block of Hyatt Place, NW, when the driver realized he was being followed and made an abrupt turn in an attempt to elude them. However, the driver pulled into a dead-end alley, at which point he placed the vehicle in reverse and slammed into a metal fence, then made a furtive gesture toward the vehicle's floor board. The officers safely positioned themselves and directed the driver to stop. After safely placing the three occupants in custody, Officer Morales searched the area where the driver had been reaching and recovered a loaded Cobra M-12 .380 caliber Uzi. It was later determined that the weapon had been stolen in a burglary in Newport News, Virginia. Arrested were two adult males and a 13-year-old female. The adults, both of whom had long criminal history, were charged with weapons offenses, receiving stolen property and unauthorized use of a vehicle. For their alertness and sound technique in making these arrests and removing a dangerous weapon from the streets, Officers Antonio and Morales were honored during the CHAMPS Awards luncheon for November. Nineteen other MPDC members were also recognized during the ceremony.

## MPDC NAMES 31 NEW INVESTIGATORS

The MPDC this week welcomed 31 police officers who have advanced to the role of investigator, a specialized, apprentice-like position for members on the detective career path. The new investigators completed three weeks of training, and are now being assigned to various district detectives offices, where they will provide investigative support on criminal cases. The investigator candidates were chosen through a competitive testing and selection process. In his remarks to the new investigators, Executive Assistant Chief Michael Fitzgerald thanked the members for "wanting to further your own careers and for wanting to help the Metropolitan Police Department become better and stronger in solving crimes and bringing offenders to justice."

## NEWS & NOTES

**Crime Mapping Tool Now Online.** DC residents, community leaders and others can now create computerized maps and other graphics showing recent crime trends in their neighborhoods, using an online mapping tool provided by the MPDC. DC CrimeMap is an Internet-based application that displays MPDC preliminary crime data around a certain address or in a particular Police Service Area (PSA) or police district. To access the system, go to <http://crimemap.dc.gov/presentation/intro.asp>.

① Read about all of their outstanding and heroic actions at:

[http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1234,q,561389,mpdcNav\\_GID,1544.asp](http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1234,q,561389,mpdcNav_GID,1544.asp)

① CHAMPS, which stands for Capital Hotels Award Metropolitan Police Service, is a monthly awards program sponsored by the Hotel Association of Washington, DC, in appreciation and support of the MPDC's service to the community. This month's luncheon was held November 1 at the Park Hyatt Hotel in Northwest.

### DATA BOX

Homicides as of 11/9/06

- ◆ 2006: 148
- ◆ 2005: 167
- ◆ % Change: -11.4%
- ◆ Closure Rate: 57.4% (85 closures)

Adult Arrests week end. 11/4/06

- ◆ Total: 1,001
- ◆ Weapons: 14
- ◆ Robbery: 11
- ◆ Unauthorized Use of Vehicles: 11
- ◆ Prostitution/Sex Offenses: 42
- ◆ Narcotics: 209

Juvenile Activity week end. 11/4/06

- ◆ Total Arrests: 72
- ◆ Robbery: 0
- ◆ Weapons: 0
- ◆ Unauthorized Use of Vehicle: 8
- ◆ Curfew Violators: 80
- ◆ Truancy Violators: 136

Firearm Recoveries as of 7/12/06

- ◆ November: 37
- ◆ October: 425
- ◆ 2006 Total: 2,389

Traffic Fatalities as of 11/9/06

- ◆ 2006: 37
- ◆ 2005: 41
- ◆ % Change: -9.8%

Information, ideas, or comments about this service? Send an e-mail to **KEVIN MORISON**, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at [kevin.morison@dc.gov](mailto:kevin.morison@dc.gov). Would you like to have this information e-mailed to you? Just go to our Website and register with Crime-reports.com.

**mpdc.dc.gov**